United Food & Commercial Workers International Union Local 27



Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia

June 1, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On behalf of UFCW Local 27, I am writing to urge your approval of AT&T's proposal to merge with T-Mobile USA, which is under review in the Commission's 11-65 docket. AT&T's acquisition of T-Mobile USA will be good for the economy and for the nation's unionized workforce.

As you probably know, AT&T has the largest full-time union workforce in the industry. The company's neutral position on union representation allows its employees to make their own choices. When AT&T acquired Cingular for example, those employees were able to choose union representation and gain coverage in collective bargaining agreements. The same should hold true for T-Mobile's workforce. The merger strengthens labor and will pave the way for more good paying jobs in the future.

While advancements in wireless communications are improving quality of life in big cities, rural America still lags in the digital revolution. As a result of this merger, AT&T will more quickly deliver the next generation of wireless to all parts of the country. The fact that AT&T and T-Mobile operate on the same technology will only hasten the process of building out a true national network of high-speed wireless broadband. That has wonderful implications for education and economic development.

We know from our members who live in rural sections of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania that there is a true divide between the consumers and businesses who can utilize the latest wireless technology and those who can't. Once the divide is closed, businesses in small towns will have the same advantages as their competitors in big cities.

This merger provides for important opportunities at a time when America needs an economic shot in the arm. The 21st century runs on wireless communications and the sooner we allow the industry to move ahead, the faster we can see new job creation and a more competitive global economy.

I wish to thank you for hearing my opinions and I hope you will move to approve this merger in the near future.

Sincerely,

Tim Goins

Executive Vice President

UFCW Local 27

CC: Commissioner Michael Copps

Commissioner Robert McDowell

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker